



Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee Minutes

Date: August 21st, 2019
Time: 7:15PM
Location: 1st floor conference room
Attendees: *Executive committee:* Christopher Tonkin (chair), Doug Greenfield, Jack Johnson, Muris Kobaslija, Doug Mayo-Wells, Scott Smith
Town of Arlington: Daniel Amstutz
Kate Byrd, Ryan Stinson

Review/approval of May, June minutes

- Motion to approve
- Carries, no opposition

Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) report

No meeting last week
Interviewing associate members for TAC (ongoing)
Advertisement not specifying that transportation domain expertise is required
3 slots open; 7 applicants - most do have transportation domain experience

Sustainable Transportation Plan Advisory Committee

80K\$ allocated for sustainable transportation plan for the town
Expand Master Plan transportation section into bigger, 20-year vision for town
Scope of plan - all aspects of transportation, including shared mobility, micro-mobility, emerging technology as well as motor vehicle, public transit, cyclists, pedestrians
Town will hire a consultant to draft plan
Themes include: "Net zero" plan for carbon neutrality by 2050; quick response tactical interventions (e.g., for scooters, automated vehicles, etc.); "street is a place for people"; regional connections; parking, curbside mgmt
Committee will include representatives from TAC, ABAC, Disability Commission, East Arlington Livable Streets (EALS), Walking in Arlington, Planning department, Public Works, Town manager's office

Most members already designated - need ABAC representative

Commitment - monthly meetings 12-18 months for plan, drafting scope of work, help us direct our priorities

- Motion to nominate Doug Mayo-Wells as representative to STAC committee
- Carries, no opposition

Manual bikeway counts

Now that automated counter is installed, 3 possibilities for manual count: change location, verify automated counter, or skip

Agreed that to manually validate automated count

Bike count days: Tue Sep 24th, Sat Sep 28th

Automated counter data

TAC planning to highlight counter and Uber/Lyft data at Town Day

Correlating data with weather over a year would be interesting presentation for next year.

So far seeing approx 2600 trips/day

Data should be available to the public on Mass DOT site (expected in October)

Town day

Sat Sep 14th

Booth paid for - reimbursement needed - Exact booth location not yet confirmed

Two boxes of child helmets to distribute

Booth will include "rules of bikeway" poster, signup sheet for upcoming counts, photos of Bikeway art installations, questionnaire to engage visitors

Christopher has booth, table, tripod for posters, shirts & will coordinate volunteer roster

Car-bike crash

East Arlington resident who commutes by bike to Lexington was struck on home commute at Mass Ave/Mystic. The resident was crossing from the trail to the bike box when struck by a vehicle making an illegal right turn against the "No right on red" signage. The vehicle fled the scene (hit and run).

The resident was treated in ER, X-rays, "mostly" OK.

Resident has been driving since the accident and observed many cars making the same illegal right on red.

The Town has already invested resources into this intersection but the resident wants to formally inform the town and ask if there are explorations around improving the safety.

A police report will be sent to Mass DMV.

One option, step up police enforcement

Use of automated cameras was discussed. Red light cameras cannot issue tickets in Massachusetts

The Town is participating with Boston University MetroBridge program looking at some crash data - don't have good mechanisms to ID high crash areas - approx 18 month lag between events and data availability

Arlington Police Department

Lexington PD reports crash data to Lexington bike committee

Arlington sends data to RMV but crashes not involving motor vehicles (bike on bike, single bike) are not systematically tracked

Working to set up a meeting to see if we can track, get this data.

Massachusetts is restrictive on what communities can do w/r/t setting speed limits

Towns allowed to opt in to 30 / 25 default in thickly settled areas

Communities can establish "safety zones" following some form of engineering study (Somerville put safety zones everywhere plausible)

If the bikeway is deemed to be a public way, could potentially designate the entire length as a safety zone (with 20mph limit).

AHS rebuild

Now that the project is funded, not entirely clear how to get bike committee input back into the schedule

Protected bike lane outside AHS - should be within the scope of the architect's work, and reimbursable by state

TAC looking at traffic impact analysis - concerns about signals at Mill Brook Dr, Mill St, drop-off lane on Mass Ave, and Grove St access through public works (might be blocked w/gate)

Removing circular drive that's there now

Will coordinate with TAC (Howard Muisse) and High School Building Committee (Ryan Katofsky)

Bikeway Signage

How to pay for? Lexington had CPA (community preservation) funding

One option: present budget to town meeting

Could meet e.g. on a Saturday, travel bikeway - note all potential signs - work up cost basis (with assistance from DPW, and using Lexington costs as a reference)

Should include removal of old signs in plan

Schedule for October

Art on the Bikeway

ABAC is not an approving body and can't formally approve any proposal

ABAC would like to have an opportunity to review future proposals in advance, not on-the-fly

ABAC's focus is on identifying risks of safety/distraction, not aesthetic questions

Parking Guide

Amendment to zoning related to bike parking for new development

Will release guidelines for bike parking for developers - also public facing

Standard will be produced in house, based on prior work (e.g., Cambridge, Washington DC)
Pavement will be replaced and bike parking updated at Library, Town Hall. Inverted-U style racks will be installed (probably next week)

Bike Tour of Arlington

Tentatively scheduled for October 20th

Jack will check old routes

Christopher will check w/ Old Schwamb Mill

Safety Video

Possibility to produce, exploring options

-- Motion to adjourn

-- Carries, none opposed